

**To:** Carey, Curtis[Carey.Curtis@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Peterson, Mary[Peterson.Mary@epa.gov]; Whitley, Christopher[Whitley.Christopher@epa.gov]  
**From:** Lacapra, Veronique C.  
**Sent:** Tue 4/1/2014 8:53:40 PM  
**Subject:** RE: Request for comment  
[removed.txt](#)

No deadline – anytime this week is fine.

Thank you,

Veronique

**Véronique C. LaCapra, Ph.D.**

Science, Environment and Health Reporter

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<http://news.stlpublicradio.org/term/health-science>

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**From:** Carey, Curtis [mailto:Carey.Curtis@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 01, 2014 3:53 PM  
**To:** Lacapra, Veronique C.  
**Cc:** Peterson, Mary; Whitley, Christopher

**Subject:** RE: Request for comment

Veronique,

Mary Peterson will be acting PA Director through next Tuesday. She will have Chris address your questions with our program staff. Please let us know what deadline you're working toward on this.

Best,

Curtis

**From:** Lacapra, Veronique C. [<mailto:lacaprav@umsl.edu>]

**Sent:** Tuesday, April 01, 2014 2:01 PM

**To:** Carey, Curtis

**Subject:** RE: Request for comment

Thank you for getting back to me Curtis.

You've probably seen it, but our story is here (I did my own, hopefully accurate, "translations" of highlights from the ORD memo):

<http://news.stlpublicradio.org/post/epa-analysis-neighbors-could-be-risk-if-landfill-fire-reaches-radioactive-waste-bridgeton>

Please let me know if you see any factual errors.

Also, I notice that the EPA R7 newsletter about the ORD memo says the following: "Based upon current data submitted to the State by the PRPs EPA does not expect the SSE to come into contact with the RIM." What data does that statement refer to?

Isn't it true that we really don't know the specific nature of the (non-radioactive) materials in the north quarry of the Bridgeton Landfill, or in OU-1 of the West Lake Landfill? And without knowing that, isn't it impossible to know how susceptible those materials are to a subsurface fire -- or to sudden cave-ins, which could allow oxygen to reach the underground reaction, turning it into an above-ground (flaming) fire?

At the top of page 27 of [this report](#), landfill fire expert Todd Thalhamer refers to the material in the north quarry as "an unknown waste mass."

Thank you,

Veronique

**Véronique C. LaCapra, Ph.D.**

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